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Welcome

A sure sign of spring is the arrival of the **Idaho Library Association's spring conferences**. This is a great opportunity for staff from all types of libraries to network, see old friends, and pick up some new ideas to try in your library. If you haven't signed up for one in your area, it's not too late. You can find the complete schedule on the ILA web site at: <http://www.idaholibraries.org/regional/>

Here's a few highlights:

Region 3 - Treasure Valley - April 8, 2006 - Eagle Academy - Eagle
"Bridging the Gap: Serving Both Digital Natives and Digital Immigrants"

- Keynote address about the 2020 Vision for Idaho Libraries

- Luncheon speaker Joy Steiner, storyteller
- Workshops on diverse topics such as cataloging, fundraising, advocacy, copyright, and LiLI Unlimited
- Roundtables sharing ideas on database use, teen ideas about libraries, and serving both digital natives and digital immigrants
- Workshops targeting interests of children and young adults

As more information becomes available, we'll also highlight these:

Regions 5 & 6 - Eastern Idaho - April 21, 2006 - Stevens Performing Arts Center, ISU - Pocatello

Region 4 - Magic Valley - May 19, 2006 - College of So. Idaho - Twin Falls

Meet Cynthia Bachman



Cynthia Bachman is the director of the **Osburn Public Library**. Osburn has a population of around 1,515 with a school population of about 550, including preschool and kindergarten.

Cynthia has been in the library field virtually her whole life. When she was in junior high and high school, her girl scout troop was involved with her hometown library in Hampton, Iowa, for badge work. Cynthia says, "I worked many Saturdays checking books in and out. Also during my high school years, my mother went back to school and got her library degree. She started working at the elementary library and then the junior high library where she worked until she retired. Needless to say, I helped her with labels and book pockets and cataloging with all those cards!"

"When my children were in school in New Jersey, I helped the elementary school librarian by dusting shelves, checking books in and out, and then doing stories for the children during their trips to the library.

"Skip to 1999 and Idaho. When I was laid off from teaching music in the schools, I would go to the Osburn library every now and then. They needed help putting barcodes in their collection of books (they had just received a grant for Athena). The assistant was thinking of leaving, so I'd come in and work for her occasionally and gradually got to know what the job entailed. I worked as the assistant from January 2000 to August 2003. Our director retired then and I took over that position and am still here."

Cynthia says, "We are finally getting older children 5th grade and above back into our library - mostly because of the computers. But they will check out a book or graphic novel every once in awhile too. We have a storytime once a month and

have between 8-20 children for this. (Our new storylady started on March 2nd.) We read stories, sing songs, have flannelboard activities, do a craft, and everyone has the all-favorite treat before they leave. We also had a lap-sit, but didn't have many mothers and babies. However, we will try that again soon."

When asked what attracted her to library service for children and youth, Cynthia replied, "I've always been around children yet I'm an only child. What does that say? Libraries are wonderful for letting your imagination take hold and run. I love to pick out a book for kids and hear the feedback when they bring the book back. Also, I love hearing 'I never knew that' when showing them how to find nonfiction items they didn't know existed."

Currently, Osburn just finished a state grant for two computers and a color printer. Their foundation is trying for some grants to redo the library with new shelving and carpet.

Cynthia considers her biggest success is seeing children in the library again. Since becoming director, this has been one of her goals. Also, circulation has increased by at least 2,000 items every year!

Cynthia doesn't have a specific favorite children's author or book, but she did read every Nancy Drew in her hometown library as a child. Her favorite genre is mystery. Recently she has read the latest Sue Grafton book and is looking forward to reading Cussler's *Polar Shift*.



When not working at the library, Cynthia teaches piano and is director of the handbell and chancel choir at her church. She also plays the flute and sings. She is on the board of the 6th Street Melodrama in Wallace and has been in many of the productions. This month they produced "Home on the Grange". Cynthia also has two gorgeous granddaughters who live nearby.

Library to Library



The hip place to be on a rainy spring night in **Orofino**, in central Idaho, is not parked in front of the TV or the computer but earning "Library Bucks" at the **Clearwater Memorial Library's** Family Game Night.

Library Assistant **Michelle Knapp** says the event has been taking place on the third Thursday of the month from 4 - 5:30 p.m. for about three years. Former library staff member Jennifer Dunaway began the program with a grant from the Hasbro Foundation which allowed them to purchase a number of board games. Since the initial purchase of games, the collection has grown to some 45 games with additional games added by generous patrons.

Each time a child or parent attends, he or she earns a "Library Buck". The child can bring a friend and the one who brings the most friends during the year

receives a bag of books. "Library Bucks" may be redeemed for incentives ranging from a miscellaneous toy from the Treasure Chest for two "Bucks" to a book of their choice chosen from a catalog for ten "Library Bucks."

"Our most popular games are *Candyland*, *Guess Who* and *Monopoly*. They usually attract eight to twelve participants including a few parents," Michelle said. She adds that not as many adults attend as she would like, "but I have a good time." Two of her three children, nine and fourteen-year-old sons, usually play the games and bring friends. The library runs the game nights September through December and February through April. Michelle also does an After School Book Fun program on the first Thursday of each month from 4 - 5 p.m. This event is geared to children ages five through twelve and includes crafts, story time and snacks.



Young Adult Corner: CSI Night and other great programming ideas from Pinehurst-Kingston

At their March meeting 'The Teens of the **Pinehurst-Kingston Branch Library**' hosted a CSI night, Children's Services Director **Lesley Gillies** reports. "Our Crime Scene Investigation was a big success! Lieutenant Steve Harris and his assistants from the Shoshone County Sheriff's Office were wonderful. They gave a very interesting presentation and answered a lot of questions," she said. The photo above shows Detective Steve Harris dusting for prints.



"We had hundreds of yards of yellow crime scene tape inside and out, chalk outlines of bodies on the floor, and tables full of equipment that we were able to handle. We then lifted fingerprints from the bookcases and scanned the carpets and furniture for blood or other substances with blue lights. Thank goodness, there was none!" Deputy Dustin and his captivated audience (in the photo on the right) explore CSI skills.

Lesley says the group has been meeting since October. Some of the other activities they have explored have included:

Halloween Makeup – including how to make realistic scrapes, gashes, and gunshot wounds.

Rubber Stamping – we had a local specialist teach this class.

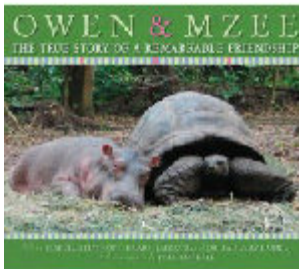
Cake Decorating – learned decorating techniques and spent time eating cookies!

Scrap Booking – Teens are creative. I collected supplies and let them go.

"Although I have to compete for their time with sports, scouts, and church functions, I'm having fun with my group of middle-high school kids," Lesley said.


Thanks for sharing some great ideas! If your library has done some creative programming with teens, we'd love to share what you're doing. Send a quick e-mail to [Stephanie](#) and we'll share all ideas in *The Scoop*!

Book Look



Meridian School District Media Coordinator Pam Juel recommends *Owen and Mzee: The True Story of a Remarkable Friendship*, by Craig Hatkoff. "It's a nonfiction book about an orphaned hippopotamus who makes friends with a tortoise. It was written by a little girl and her dad and is charming -- wonderful pictures and a great story," Pam said.

Owen and Mzee also have their own web blog at <http://www.lafargeecosystems.com/main/blog.php> and there is a free e-book of the story on the same web site.

 **Marge Holley, director of the Filer Public Library**, just published a humor book and her second one is at publishers now. "I have been writing all my life and have been the Filer Library Director since 1998. The title of my first book is *Have I Ever Told You How Much I Hate People? Written by Two Little Old Ladies With No Friends*. My second book is *Granny's Journal....That Little Old Lady is Back!* I have been a *Times News* correspondent for several years and have a regular column in our local paper, the *West End News*, called "Excerpts from Granny's Journal." I also have written two children's books geared to ages four, five and six. One using the alphabet is part of a series. I have five children and fourteen grandchildren. My book is available on www.Amazon.com, www.half.com, Ingrams, Barnes and Noble, Baker and Taylor, Bowkers, and Borders." For an autographed copy, e-mail Marge at asccm@hotmail.com.



Upcoming Events

Governor's Roundtable on Children and Families - Boise - April 26-27

This diverse two-day workshop is an accumulation of the best presentations from pre-natal to aging that could be developed. Wednesday night's dinner will be a special evening of appreciation from Governor Kempthorne, along with entertainment by world recording artist, Kurt Bestor.

Register now at www.goc.idaho.gov. Regional and statewide speakers will present thirty-eight workshops addressing the “hot” topics of this year’s Roundtable. The workshop topics include issues on: families and children, seniors, communities, substance abuse, mental health, health care, faith-based, law enforcement, and more! We invite everyone to come hear ideas, share, and learn. We hope everyone will attend workshops that meet the needs of their organizations and careers, or step into a workshop to learn what is happening in a special area of interest to them personally. This is an opportunity to learn and grow!



You don’t have to stay up until the wee hours of **April 2** but you will need to remember to set your clocks and watches ahead one hour on the night of April 1st. That’s when **Daylight Savings Time** begins this year. The annual change of time will continue through the last Saturday in October, when we will regain that lost hour. Fire officials note that this is a good time to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Last year Congress passed an energy bill extending Daylight Savings Time by a month. Beginning next year the time will change on the second Sunday in March and extend until the first Sunday in November. For more information go to www.timeanddate.com/time/aboutdst.html.




At sundown on **April 12** of this year Jews around the world begin their eight day observance of the **Passover**. It commemorates the freedom and exodus of the Israelites led by Moses out of Egypt during the reign of the Pharaoh Ramses II. Passover is a time of family gatherings and lavish meals known as Seders. Of all the Jewish holidays, Passover or Pesach is the one most commonly observed even by otherwise non-observing Jews. For more on the observance, the food and the fun go to www.holidays.net/passover/. Another source may be found at www.jewfaq.org/holidaya.htm.





Closely associated with Passover is the Christian celebration of **Easter**. In Christian countries it marks a religious holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Celebrations of Easter have many legends and customs that are pagan in origin such as the Easter bunny, a symbol of fertility and brightly painted eggs representing the sunlight of spring. Easter in the western churches falls on the first Sunday following the full moon after the spring equinox. Therefore Easter can fall as early as March 22 or as late as April 25. In 2006 Easter is **April 16**. Closer to the birthplace of Christianity, Eastern churches mark the holiday according to the date of the Passover festival.



April 21 is celebrated as **Kindergarten Day**. It was on that date in 1782 that Friedrich Froebel was born in Germany where in 1837 he started the first Kindergarten. He built his institutions on a series of innovative principles that used the innate curiosity and interests of children to guide them to see what Froebel believed to be the harmonious interconnectedness of all things. Many of the kindergartens had real gardens which the children cultivated themselves. Despite resistance from the autocratic Prussian state, the kindergarten idea spread throughout Germany in the mid-19th century. St. Louis was the site of the first public American Kindergarten which opened in 1873.

 **April 21st** is also **Thank Your School Librarian Day**. Probably the best “thank you” your librarian could receive today would be to visit the library and check out a book.

 An observance of much shorter tradition is **Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day**. The Ms. Foundation for Women has been sponsoring this program since 2003. It takes place on the fourth Thursday in April and this year will be marked on **April 27**. It is designed to “expand opportunities for girls and boys, to expose them to what adults in their lives do during the work day, show them the value of their education and give them an opportunity to share how they envision their future.” For ideas on participating go to www.daughtersandsonstowork.org/.


 **April 28** is **Arbor Day**. This, the last Friday of April, is the most common day for the observance. A number of states celebrate at other times to coincide with the best tree-planting weather. It was first marked on April 10, 1872 in Nebraska, at the urging of journalist and politician Julius Sterling Morton. That first observance was a smashing success with one million trees being planted in that state. In 1970 President Richard Nixon proclaimed the last Friday of April as National Arbor Day. Morton would be proud to see that his idea that the wide-scale planting of trees is good for the landscape and for the economy has spread to other countries around the world. Check out www.arbor-day.net/.

 There is still time to register your **El Día de los Niños event** (held on or around **April 30**) and be eligible to receive a colorful banner. Go to: www.lili.org/surveys/ninos.htm.



Summer Reading News

Maxine Riggers, with the Nezperce Community Library, recently visited with the teachers at the Nezperce Elementary School to ask them to help promote the summer reading program. "Besides the regular encouragement, all the teachers are purchasing the red summer reading T-shirts to wear the week before school is out and on other occasions when promoting reading," Maxine said. "It's a great way to promote summer reading!"

 Sixty-five libraries who applied to the Summer Reading Outreach program to do **School Visits** will be receiving their bendies, bookmarks, buttons and T-shirts by the end of next week. These libraries are targeting 40,000 school age children statewide.



Check out this **new resource** available on the [CLSP web site](#). Downloadable **newspaper ads** are provided courtesy of the North Carolina State Library for Newspapers in Education Partners (NIE) and were underwritten by an LSTA grant. The ads are built around the theme "Paws, Claws, Scales & Tales" and take the form of fun puzzle-like worksheets for young folks to fill out. In addition to newspapers these ads can happily find their way into library and library support newsletters or simply be used as handbills / flyers. These ads are provided free of charge for use by any library or library supporter.



For the third year in a row librarian and Internet maven Karen G. Schneider and her team at Librarians' Internet Index have again created a Collection Page for the CSLP theme! The newest Featured Collection, Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales at <http://lii.org/pub/topic/pawsc claws> is a companion to this year's Summer Reading Program.



School Zone

The March 2006 issue of *School Library Journal* has an in-depth review of Wikipedia ("Wikipedia, the Review", by Robert Eiffert. Pp. 82-83) that you may want to read.

While popular with the general public, this online encyclopedia has also come under a great deal of criticism. Eiffert poses two questions for school librarians: "What should we make of it as educators? Is Wikipedia an appropriate reference for our students?"

The review goes on to offer thoughtful analysis of the accuracy, readability, scope, style and layout of Wikipedia and compares it to *World Book* and the *Encyclopedia Britannica* by examining articles on the Black Death, Intelligent Design, and Newton's laws of motion.

School Library Journal is available through **LiLI-D** in *Academic Search Premier* and *Professional Development Collection*, both EBSCO databases.

Know the Numbers

In the February 17th issue of the **Scoop**, we profiled the first policy brief in the Idaho Kids Count Series, *Bridge to Adulthood for Idaho Youth*. The second report in the series is *Learning and Earning*, and explores the link between education and earning power.

Statistics show that among 25-34 year olds, Idaho has a lower rate of those who dropped out of high school than the national rate - 11.5% to 13.6%. However, rates of college graduates are lower for Idahoans - 18.6% to 21.6% nationally.

Idaho ranks 43rd in the nation for 18-24 year olds enrolled in college, yet is third in the nation in terms of affordability of 4-year public colleges and universities and 2nd in the nation in terms of affordability of private schools.

The report goes on to say, "... a powerful story of opportunity lost: Idaho offers higher education programs that are among the most affordable in the nation, yet Idaho's young adults are less likely to take advantage of the opportunity." (p.5)

The report goes on to discuss current patterns in educational opportunities and family commitments among young adults.

Link to the policy brief at www.idahokidscount.org.

A Closer Look at the Public Library Association Conference

Over 25 Idaho librarians were among the 11,000 attendees, presenters and vendors who attended the **2006 Public Library Association Conference** in Boston, March 21-25. Several themes were woven into conference presentations:

- providing outstanding customer service,
- reaching library users (and nonusers) through new technologies, and
- the challenge for librarians to be flexible and innovative in how they utilize their resources.

Here is a sampling of sessions that Peggy attended:

Preconference on "Moving Forward: Community Links: Community Building Techniques"

Speaker Steve Sumerford from the Greensboro, NC, Public Library asked attendees to put aside our "Little Mind" that we use to focus on specifics, and, instead, use our "Big Mind" to be expansive, think outside everyday tasks and ask, "What is possible?" He said that community building differs from outreach by setting out to develop relationships without knowing the end result. Community building is a process that involves all staff and customer service is the most important tool libraries have to use.

Stanley Strauss from the Cerritos, CA, Public Library, shared how their library reinvented itself using the mantra of "library as experience." Their new library building is organized around "themes" which provide their customers with a memorable experience when they visit the library. To see this innovative library, visit their web site at: http://www.ci.cerritos.ca.us/library/experience_library.html.

Keynote speaker, journalist Linda Ellerbee, was sassy and succinct covering topics ranging from her early years as a reporter to the challenges of aging. She laced her comments with several quotes, including:

- "Face a new challenge with a new solution."
- "To risk change is to believe in tomorrow."
- "The secret of life is to enjoy the passage of time."

The New Branch? What is the Role of the Library Web Site?

In a fast-paced presentation, staff from the Denver Public Library and the Phoenix Public Library challenged attendees to provide a full-service web site or risk becoming irrelevant or marginal to their community. The presenters shared tips for planning a full service web site that provides the best user experience possible. They stressed customer service saying, "Convenience trumps quality." Examples of how libraries can deliver programs through their e-branch is podcasting a story program, mounting a rotating Powerpoint presentation online, hosting a phone-a-story, and holding on-line book discussions.

You Are but IM: Connecting Young Adults and Libraries

The co-authors of *Connecting Young Adults and Libraries*, Patrick Jones, Tricia Suellentrip and Michele Gorman shared their enthusiasm for working with teens. They emphasized that teens are a work in progress and many of their behaviors that adults find annoying are actually developmentally appropriate. Since we can't change that behavior, it is better for librarians to change the way they relate to teens. The presenters also talked about Asset Building and what teens need from their interactions with adults. They challenged librarians to provide materials that teens relate to like graphic novels and comic books just as we provide board books as developmentally appropriate for infants and toddlers. The presenters also challenged librarians to experiment with new technologies, like IM, podcasting, gaming in the library, and to visit social networking web sites like www.myspace.com/ and www.flickr.com/.

Celebrating Our Community's Diversity: Programs and Services for Newcomer Families

The Hamilton Public Library in Ontario, Canada, shared two family literacy programs they have developed for new immigrants settling in their community and families whose home language is not English:

- The **Multicultural Early Learning Development** project introduces children and their parents to the Kindergarten Curriculum, their local library and fund learning activities.
- The **Family Language Kit** initiative provides accessible culturally sensitive reading kits for recent immigrants and newcomer families learning English. The kits contain puppets, storybooks, videos and cassettes and are available in 16 home languages and English.

For more information and resources, visit their website:

www.myhamilton.ca/myhamilton/LibraryServices/Kids/ForMomAndDad/ESLBooksandKits.htm.

All this and more made for a very full week. If you attended PLA, e-mail [Peggy](#) or [Stephanie](#) with your impressions of the sessions you attended so we can share with *Scoop* readers.

Tips & Tools

New Books at the Idaho State Library:

Graphic Novels in Your Media Center: A Definitive Guide, by Allyson A. W. Lyga with Barry Lyga. Libraries Unlimited, 2004. [025.2 LYGA]

The authors begin by asking the question, “Why use graphic novels in the first place?” or “What characteristics of the graphic novel make it a desirable and worthy component of your collection?” There are three types of students who benefit from graphic novels: those who cannot visualize, reluctant readers, and visually dependent students. Lesson plans are linked to school curriculums for all ages and resources include web sites, reviews, and a section on how to buy graphic novels. A list of 100 graphic novels sorted by age level is included in the appendix.

Helping Teens Cope: Resources for School Library Media Specialists and Other Youth Workers, by Jami Biles Jones. Linworth Publishing, Inc., 2003. [027.8 JONES 2008]

Arranged in three sections, this book provides information and resources on issues that teens face today. Annotated lists of books are grouped by middle school and high school. Topics include: maltreatment, substance abuse, depression and suicide, eating disorders, self-inflicted violence, divorce, teen pregnancy, relationship violence, driving, bullying and cliques.

These books are in the State Library collection and can be checked out either by direct loan or through interlibrary loan at your library. Go to www.lili.org/isl/card-application.htm to fill out an application for a State Library card. For more information on borrowing ISL materials, call (208) 334-2150 or (800) 458-3271.



The **Idaho Community Foundation** recently mailed their spring newsletter. The next grant cycle is for southwestern Idaho from May 1 through July 1. Get more information at the Foundation web site at www.idcomfdn.org/.



The Idaho State Library is running **trials for a variety of database products** during March and April. To access the online products you may go to:

<http://www.lili.org/forlibs/demos.htm>. Please send any comments regarding these products to: Charlotte Fowles, State Library, Electronic Resources & Collection Development Librarian / (208-334-2150, ext. 227 / cmfowles@isl.state.id.us.

News Beyond Idaho



The **Denver Public Library**, who presented a workshop session at the PLA conference on library services delivered through an e-branch, has a special kids page at: <http://kids.denverlibrary.org/>.



On her web site [The Fire Escape: Books Between Cultures](#), author **Mitali Bose** writes that she "survived the pressures of 'life between cultures' and endured academia thanks to a steady diet of books from public libraries — one of America's greatest gifts to new immigrants." Visit this site for her list of recommended books for immigrant children of all ages:
www.youngimmigrants.com/.

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